

**Procedures of Limited Clinical Effectiveness (TNR2) policy –  
reworded criteria for Excision of Chalazion, and Facet Joint  
Injections for therapeutic use**

<b>Agenda Item 18, Paper 14</b>	
<b>Summariser:</b>	Andrea Golding – IFR Lead
<b>Authors and contributors:</b>	Dr Ruchika Gupta – IFR Clinical Lead
<b>Executive Lead(s):</b>	James Blythe
<b>Relevant Committees or forums that have already reviewed this issue:</b>	Surrey Priorities Committee
<b>Action required:</b>	For decision
<b>Attached:</b>	Revised criteria for Excision of Chalazion and Facet Joint Injections - Therapeutic
<b>CCG Strategic objectives relevant to this paper:</b>	Core business: relevant to all / most objectives
<b>Risk</b>	The Procedures of Limited Clinical Effectiveness policy is not currently on the risk register.
<b>Compliance observations:</b>	<b>Finance:</b> The CCG, as with predecessor organisations, seeks to balance clinically appropriate thresholds with potential cost pressures in this area. These are budgeted for but are kept under review.
	<b>Engagement :</b> Both criteria changes have been formally reviewed prior to Governing Body sign off
	<b>Quality impact:</b> Both criteria changes have been formally reviewed prior to Governing Body sign off
	<b>Equality impact:</b> Both criteria changes have been formally reviewed

prior to Governing Body sign off

**Privacy impact:** Not required – no change in use of Personal Data proposed

**Legal:** Potential legal challenge to all policies and in individual cases if policy is not fair and consistent

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The criteria for Excision of Chalazion and Facet Joint Injections – Therapeutic, which are listed within the 'Procedures of Limited Clinical Effectiveness (PoLCE)' policy have been reworded as the current versions have been difficult to interpret. Clarification has now been given on each of the criteria for these procedures.

The Governing Body are asked to approve these revised criteria's for use with immediate effect.

**Date of paper**

July 2016

**For further information contact:**

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**Procedures of Limited Clinical Effectiveness (TNRF2) policy –  
reworded criteria for Excision of Chalazion, and Facet Joint Injections for therapeutic use  
July 2016**

The criteria for Excision of Chalazion and Facet Joint Injections – Therapeutic, which are listed within the ‘Procedures of Limited Clinical Effectiveness (PoLCE)’ policy have been reworded as the current versions have been difficult to interpret. Clarification has now been given on each of the criteria for these procedures.

TNRF2 025	Excision of Chalazion	<p>This procedure is not routinely funded.</p> <p>Chalazia (meibomian cysts) are benign, granulomatous lesions that will normally resolve. Treatment consists of regular (four times daily) application of heat packs.</p> <p>The CCG will fund excision of chalazia when the following criteria are met: Chalazion will be removed when it has been present for a minimum of 4 months</p> <p><b>AND</b></p> <p>When it is causing blurred vision</p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>When it is a source of regular infection that has required medical attention twice or more.</p> <p>The watchful waiting period should usually be between 4 to 6 months at the clinician's discretion as many will resolve with conservative management during that time.</p> <p><u>In common with all types of lesions, the CCG will fund removal where malignancy is suspected.</u></p>
TNRF2 035	Facet joint injections - Therapeutic	<p>The CCG will fund medial branch blocks for the management of cervical, thoracic and lumbar back pain as specified below:</p> <p>All conservative management options, (physiotherapy, exercise, pharmacotherapy including analgesia) have been tried and failed</p> <p><b>AND</b></p> <p>The pain has resulted in moderate to significant impact on daily functioning and it has lasted 12 months or more</p> <p>The treatment of facet joint pain is provided as part of a comprehensive pain management programme.</p> <p>Further facet joint injections will only be funded if the initial facet joint injection has had a proven therapeutic benefit: up to two courses of injections per year will be funded in line with the Pain Management Pathway for Chronic Facetal Pain.</p> <p>Intra articular injections will only be funded according to the criteria above.</p>

		<p>Note: (diagnostic facet joint injections used by spinal surgeons as part of a diagnostic pathway prior to making a decision to proceed to surgery will be funded).</p> <p><b>Patients should be encouraged to stop smoking prior to surgery</b></p>
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